

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 5 and 7 have been amended. Claims 2-4, 6 and 9-11 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 5, 7 and 8 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-3, 6 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Berfmann et al. (U.S. patent 6,006,412).

This rejection is deemed moot in view of the fact that the features of claim 4 have been incorporated into claim 1 and claim 4 has been deemed to be allowable by the Examiner. Further, claims 2-3, 6 and 9-11 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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10/28/04

By: _____



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